

MARSHFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly Council Meeting held on 10th December 2024 at Marshfield Village Hall and via a Zoom video/audio conference call commencing at 7:15 p.m.

Present: Ms Cath Davis (Chairperson)
Mrs Chris Roberts
Mrs Linda Southworth-Stevens
Mr Gary Doubler
Mr Lee Colvin
Fr Ross Maidment

Apologies: Councillor Seema Sindhakar (family), Councillor Sue Davies(ill)

In attendance: Councillor Allan Screen (Newport City Council), Kevin Donovan (Gwent Wildlife Trust), G C Thomas (Clerk)

190. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no interests declared.

191. PRESENTATION BY GWENT WILDLIFE TRUST

Kevin Donovan, Water Vole Project officer for Gwent Wildlife Trust gave a presentation to the Council about the project to assist water voles to thrive by improving habitat and protecting them from American mink. The project is looking for volunteers to assist, including on the Gwent Levels west of the River Usk.

kdonovan@gwentwildlife.org

<https://www.gwentwildlife.org/reintroducing-water-voles-gwent-levels>

(Councillor Maidment joined the meeting)

192. VACANT OFFICES

- a) Chairperson of the Planning Committee – There were no nominations and this office remains vacant.
- b) Member of the Finance & General Purposes Committee – Councillor Davis nominated **Councillor Maidment**. This was seconded by Councillor Roberts and unanimously agreed.
- c) Authorisation for online banking payments – Councillor Davis nominated **Councillor Maidment**. This was seconded by Councillor Roberts and unanimously agreed.

193. RECRUITMENT OF COUNCILLORS

The Council agreed to advertise the vacant seats in the newsletter, notice boards, website and verbally. *The matter should be included in the agenda for the next meeting.*

194. POLICE MATTERS

The Council was disappointed that no police officer was able to attend the meeting. There were concerns about car break-ins and proposed restructuring of policing in the area. Councillor Davis asked Councillor Screen to check on the proposed restructuring.

Actions

GT

Agenda

The Council agreed to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent to invite a representative to a Council meeting to discuss the lack of police presence in the general Marshfield locality and some difficulties experienced when contacting Gwent Police by telephone.

GT

195. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was nothing to be raised.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

196. Resignations (Min 164)

The Clerk reported that the vacant seats had been advertised in the notice boards and on the Council website.

197. Police Matters (Min 166)

Sergeant Chris Johnson emailed on 14th November explaining that his current PCSO has recently gone onto maternity leave, therefore with current demand local police have not been able to spare the resources to attend some meetings. The importance of attending meetings was recognised and Sgt Johnson or a representative will be attending.

198. Newport City Councillor's Report - Speed Camrea Checks (Min 170)

GoSafe emailed on 13th November to inform the Council of the results of deployment of a covert speed monitor on Marshfield Road. From the speed data, personal injury collision records and community factors, the road does not meet the 'Go Safe' criteria for enforcement.

The location identified on Marshfield Road, Marshfield, near the post office, was visited and assessed for the deployment of a covert speed monitor. Unfortunately, the location was not suitable. There are a limited number of 'Go Safe' enforcement vehicles in Gwent to cover the five local authority areas, these vehicles attend roads where there is or has been a history of personal injury collisions, where speed has been a causation factor.

Residents with speed concerns on roads where they live, may wish to consider community speed watch (CSW). This is a scheme where residents conduct their own speed monitoring, with equipment and training provided by 'Go Safe' and Gwent Police.

199. Communication (Min 187)

Councillor Davis told the meeting that the Autumn 2024 newsletter has been completed and gave details of a new sponsorship arrangement with The Central Group, Ty Mawr Lane, Marshfield.

200. Save the Six Bells (Min 188)

The Clerk reported that a letter had been sent to the Six Bells Project stating that Marshfield Community Council will be a partner for the purposes of section 4 of the Community Facilities Programme application.

201. Street Lighting Pentwyn Terrace (Min 189)

Councillor Screen will check with Councillor Watkins about enquiries with Newport City Council concerning this problem.

202. MARSHFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB NETTING

AS

Nothing further had been heard from the football club.

203. REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Councillor Davis reported that she had attended the service on behalf of the community and laid a wreath of remembrance.

204. FLY TIPPING

Councillor Roberts reported that a meeting with Jayne Bryant MS had raised concerns and shared some images of fly tipping in the locality. Jayne Bryant had agreed to take the issue forward with the Welsh Government.

205. NEWPORT CITY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Screen provided the following report:

- Details of the Lighthouse Park evacuation due to storm Darragh.
- The Westminster budget has provided more money to the Welsh Government. The Welsh Government budget is yet to be approved but there is a hope for more money to local councils.
- A consultation on bus services is due and it is important for residents to respond.
- Ward councillors will meet with planning enforcement officers on 17th December to receive an update.
- PRAID (Peterstone Residents Against Inappropriate Development) are due to meet with police on 17th December. This meeting is completely controlled by the police and Councillor Screen will raise a query why other community councils in the locality are not able to be represented.
- Councillor Colvin wished to pass on thanks to Councillor Rhian Howells for efforts to arrange white lines on roads in the Peterstone area.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

206. Finance & General Purposes Committee

The minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 21st November were approved and adopted by the Council. The recommended 2025/25 budget and precept per property requirement of £25 were agreed by the Council and should be sent to Newport City Council.

GT

207. One Voice Wales Membership

The Clerk presented an invoice from One Voice Wales inviting the Council to renew the subscription for 2024 at a cost of £487.

Councillor Davis proposed to continue the membership. This was seconded by Councillor Southworth-Stevens and unanimously agreed.

GT

208. Fireworks Display Donation

Marshfield Village Hall Management Committee emailed on 9th December asking for a donation towards the £1600 cost of staging the fireworks display 2024.

Councillor Davis proposed a £650 donation. This was seconded by Councillor Southworth-Stevens and unanimously agreed.

GT

209. Replacement Gate - Village Hall Playing Fields

Marshfield Village Hall Management Committee emailed on 9th December including quotes for replacing the large gate to the playing fields and asked about the small gate at the end of the car park which is falling over.

The Council examined the quotes and agreed to purchase a galvanised seven bar gate from Country Timbers at a cost of £250 including fitting and VAT.

Councillor Southworth-Stevens agreed to check with Newport City Council Rights of Way officers about the gate to the footpath.

GT

LS-S

210. Allotment Costs

Councillor Southworth-Stevens asked the Council if further skips should be ordered to encourage removal of unwanted items and tidying of the sites.

The Council agreed to order one skip for the Marshfield Road site

LS-S

211. Payments and Invoices

The Council approved the following payments:

10.12.24	G Thomas - Salary +Travel	OLP	994.92
10.12.24	G Thomas - Reimb Zoom subscription December	OLP	15.59
10.12.24	G Thomas - Internet reimbursement	OLP	18.00
10.12.24	HMRC - PAYE & NIC November	OLP	315.11
10.12.24	C Davis – Reimbursement - Christmas Tree lights	OLP	45.98
10.12.24	G Thomas - Stamps, Printer Ink - reimbursement	OLP	52.40

212. COUNCIL WEBSITE

Councillor Davis had spoken to Chris Harris of ‘Our Living levels’. He was willing to look at making improvements to the Council’s website free of charge.

The Council agreed to this offer and to put the matter on the agenda for the next meeting.

Agenda

213. PLANNING MATTERS

The Council agreed that there were no observations to be sent to Newport City Council for the following planning application:

GT

MCC 1023

CONEX 24/0866

PROPOSAL: Two storey side and rear extensions with loft conversion and car port, including external alterations and related car parking

SITE: Willow View, 62 Marshfield Road, Cardiff, CF3 2UW.

214. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported emails concerning allotment tenancies.

Councillor Southworth-Stevens agreed to contact a new applicant.

215. SANTA RUN 2024

Councillor Davis gave details of the arrangements. All proceed are to go to LATCH charity.

216 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Councillors Davis and Roberts had attended events at Marshfield Village Hall and Castleton Village Hall to promote the Community Council.

The articles for the Autumn Newsletter have been completed.

Councillor Colvin suggested informing residents about the school admissions consultation being undertaken by Newport City Council. *Councillor Davis agreed to add this to a Facebook message.*

Councillor Davis informed the meeting that The Central Group had agreed to sponsor the newsletter.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

217. Church Yard Maintenance

Councillor Maidment told Members that the Welsh Government were looking to change legislation to transfer the responsibility of church yards to community councils. Under current arrangements there may be problems financing the maintenance of St Mary's church yard.

Councillor Maidment agreed to forward the details of the matter to Council Members.

Meeting closed 22:17

CD

RM